NO. 4 THE BIGFOOT RECORD FREE

EDITORIAL!

Hello out there, welcome back to the Bigfoot Record. In this issue, you are going to see information from Ray Crowe, Art Caruso and Bill Brann . Anybody can submit information concerning the sasquatch mystery as long as it is legitimate. If anybody has encountered Bigfoot, please feel free to contact me. Here is my address if you want to report a sighting or to send information etc. for my newsletter.

Bill Green c/o

N.E.B.I.R.C.

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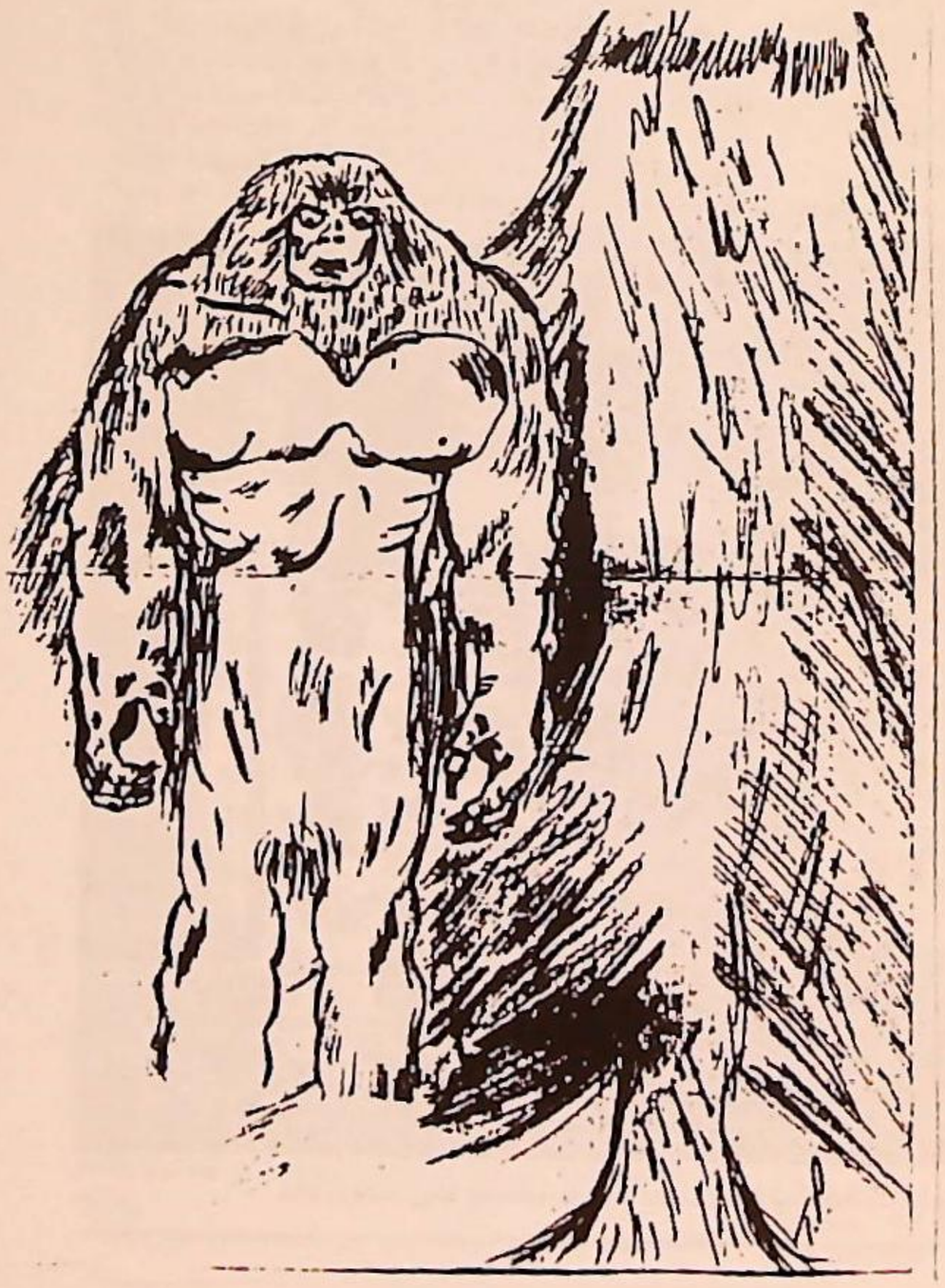


Sasquatch drawn by Tron Peterson

Thank You

From the Editor

Billy Green

COVER PROFILE

BIGFOOT

By George W. Earley

It's huge, hairy and smells like it hasn't bathed since the dawn of time.

It can leave tracks 6 inches wide and 18 inches long. They're human-like, but the toe configuration is unlike yours and mine.

The white man calls it "Bigfoot." Native Americans call it by many names; "Sasquatch," a Salish Indian word, is perhaps the one most frequently used and is becoming the preferred term.

Most scientists — zoologists, anthropologists and folklorists, for example — don't believe in Sasquatch. It's a myth, they say. A legend. Monster folklore built on childhood fantasies that have carried over into adulthood and been reinforced by Hollywood monster movies.

But if it's all a myth, then what's been making all those tracks people have found in the Pacific Northwest (and other areas of America and Canada) for nearly 200 years?

That's what Ray Crowe wants to know. Crowe is founder/director of the Western Bigfoot Society, a little band of believers whose faith in the existence of the beast is unshakable.

One evening a month they gather in a basement meeting room below Crowe's used book and collectibles shop in Portland's St. Johns neighborhood to exchange viewpoints (possibly the hottest topic: Should we kill a Sasquatch to prove they exist or leave them alone?) and to listen to guest speakers on various aspects of the Sasquatch mystery. And — perhaps to prove that they are not merely armchair adventurers — some of them make field trips to nearby areas in Washington and Oregon where Sasquatch have been reportedly seen and/or tracks found.

A recent meeting was typical. About 20 people attended and because believing in, or claiming to have seen, a Sasquatch can subject you to a lot of unwanted ridicule, any names mentioned in this account, save for Ray Crowe and the evening's main speaker, Jim Hewkin, are pseudonyms.

For the first-time visitor (non-members are welcome to attend, Crowe merely asks a $3 donation "to discourage idle curiosity seekers and help pay the electric bill") the long, narrow meeting room initially gives the impression of being decorated in early flea market.

At the foot of the stairs is a table with material for sale: back issues of the WBS newsletter *The Track Record*, WBS buttons, bumper stickers reading "BIGFOOT is Alive and Well in Oregon," and books about the Sasquatch.

Beyond the table, a couple dozen chairs — set up two-by-two on either side of a center aisle — fill the room wall-to-wall.

The walls themselves are covered with an eclectic collection of Sasquatch memorabilia. There are topographical maps of areas where sightings and/or tracks have been reported, dozens of magazine articles and newspaper clippings (both straight news and supermarket tabloid sleaze), photographs of WBS members on outings, an ad (and T-shirt) for the Bigfoot Waterbeds and Futons shop in Vancouver, Wash., and a photo of a man with a small Sasquatch-type footprint tattooed on his shoulder. There's a "Harry and the Hendersons" movie poster, comic books, a Bigfoot flag, and postcards of life-sized wooden BF statues in California and Oregon (the nearest one to *This Week* readers is in front of the store at the Lost Lake campground), and the addresses of various other organizations of Sasquatch seekers in the United States and Canada (too boxed information).

"Up front is a specimen exhibit, complete with a sketch of [illegible] nearby display case holds plaster casts of [illegible] Sasquatch tracks from Coos Bay and Estacada, carved feces, a key collection of animal bones and skulls (none of Sasquatch, unfortunately), Sasquatch coffee mugs and similar oddments, and more photographs.

After giving the attendees time to mingle, exchange viewpoints and browse the walls, Crowe called the meeting to order.

Referring to track reports from Idaho which the Associated Press wire had carried, Crowe announced that John, a new WBS member, had visited the site and asked him for his observations.

Noting that he got there not only some days after the initial find but after a heavy rain, John said he didn't really know enough to pass judgment on the tracks he was shown. He said the two longtime Bigfoot experts who were on the scene — Rene Dahinden of British Columbia, and Washington State University anthropologist Dr. Grover Krantz — disagreed about the tracks. Krantz felt they were probably real, while Dahinden insisted they were fakes. The tracks, said John, were smaller than those usually reported, being only 12-13 inches long.

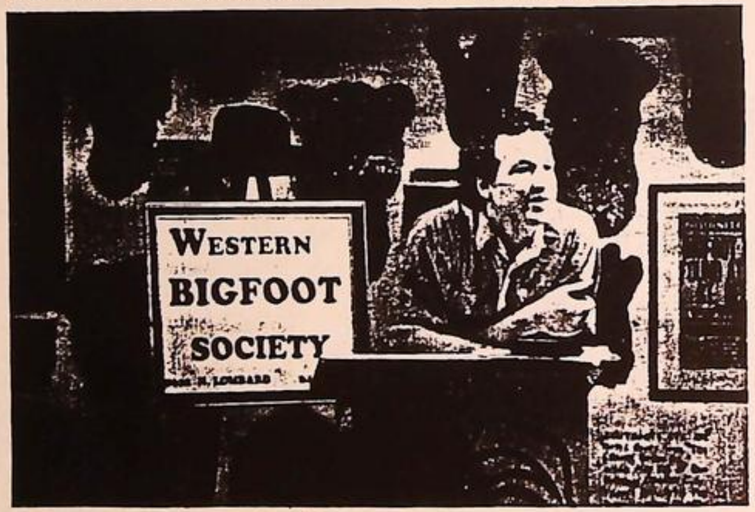
Jake commented that unless we thought there was only one Sasquatch who had lived longer than Methuselah, then there had to be families. Families [illegible] adults and juveniles and, like human children, [illegible] won't begin life with adult-sized feet [illegible] most people hiking in the woods had seen the tracks of juvenile Sasquatch and dismissed them as somebody's humans.

After all, he added somewhat sarcastically, "everyone knows" many backpackers are crazy eco-freaks who often hike naked once they are beyond the prying eyes of the OCA.

Footprint fakery is a problem, Crowe noted, pointing to huge track casts on the wall behind him. All were props used in a movie shot in Portland and had been decorations in the film's "Bigfoot Bar and Grill."

On the other hand, said Hewkin, a retired wildlife biologist who spent nearly 30 years ranging Oregon's forests while working for the state wildlife department, when you find footprints many miles from roads and other trappings of civilization, in areas where tourists are non-existent and even backpackers are rarely seen, it is not easy to dismiss them as fakes.

Like John, Hewkin had traveled to the Idaho site where he talked with Krantz as well as with some local Indians who said many other tracks had been found in the same area a week or two before the ones that had gotten news media attention. (This, as Sasquatch investigators know, is not unusual. Once a report — be it a sighting or the finding of tracks — becomes public, other people are willing to come forth and talk about what they've seen. Some investigators estimate that perhaps only 10 percent of all Sasquatch sightings are ever publicly reported.)



A WBS member recounts a recent sighting in Idaho that has fueled debate among Bigfoot experts

COVER PROFILE

Hewkin described the Idaho countryside as a mix of woods and farmlands with ample cover for large animals. Several attendees commented on the ease with which wild animals, even male deer and elk with their large antlers, can move through underbrush that humans find virtually impassable.

In his talk, Hewkin said that at the beginning of his career as a wildlife biologist he too dismissed Sasquatch reports as fakes or mistaken observations by [illegible] trained people inexperienced with wildlife. But, he went on to say, he kept finding "signs" inconsistent with known animals, particularly bears, frequently cited by skeptics as a major cause for Sasquatch sightings. (Bears do appear human-like, particularly at a distance, when standing upright on their hind feet. But as they cannot walk more than a step or two that way, bears could not have left the long lines of tracks found in Idaho.)

Bears eat grubs, ants and other insects [illegible] rotten logs and stumps apart to get them. [illegible] have claws and leave recognizable claw marks when they do so. Hewkin says he has found broken logs and trees with obvious fingernail marks on them — [illegible] from fingernails far larger than yours and mine.

The Bigfoot, he believes, are omnivores, able to eat a wide variety of berries and grasses as well as meat of various kinds.

He told of interviewing a man who said he saw several Bigfoot dig out a rodent nest and devour the mice. A deer hunter told him of seeing a fawn caught by an unidentified animal. The hunter was seated on a stump only a few dozen feet from the edge of a woods. Suddenly, "something" burst from the woods, snatched up the fawn, which had wandered away from its mother, and dashed back into the trees. It happened so fast, the hunter told Hewkin, that all he could truly be sure of was that the creature hadn't been a bear and that the fawn had been grasped by hands and not a mouthful of teeth.

This report provoked a number of secondhand anecdotal accounts from attendees who recounted instances they had heard of that fit in with Hewkin's belief that the Sasquatch are active predators.

Tracks found in snow, says Hewkin, show that the Sasquatch, unlike bears, do not hibernate in the winter. To stay active then requires considerable food, and Hewkin believes they cache the bodies of animals caught earlier in the year.

The creatures then feed off this smelly carrion and that, Hewkin believes, is the source of the horrible smell frequently mentioned by Sasquatch sighters. The smell is said to be so bad that even trained hunting dogs refuse to follow it.

Charlie didn't agree with Hewkin's idea. He told me afterward that while a Sasquatch would be smelly in the spring after a winter of sharing a lair with rotten meat, a few rains should wash even the stinkiest one clean. But Sasquatch [illegible] mentioned year-round.

"My guess," said Charlie, "is that the Sasquatch, like some other animals, has evolved scent glands that put out a really awful smell for defensive purposes. Big and strong as it is, a Sasquatch would be no match for bears, cougars or a wolf pack but a truly nose-numbing, gut-wrenching [illegible] would scare them away."

I flipped [illegible] of *The Track Record*, the WBS newsletter, and found a mix of anecdotal accounts from [illegible] many years, excerpts from books and [illegible] newspaper reports. Some of the tales seemed pretty far out, I told Crowe. He agreed, noting that he lacked the time and other resources [illegible] out much of what he printed.

"I just [illegible] the members make their own decisions," he said, smiling. "But if I can, I do try to check. I've been told the Estacada Ranger District on the other side of Mount Hood has a log of Bigfoot sightings, with 30 entries over the last three years. I got this from a reliable source but they deny it, so I've written the chief ranger in Washington, D.C. No reply yet."

I wandered out of the store to find WBS members still discussing their favorite topic on the sidewalk. Around me were the usual [illegible] and sounds and smells of the city. It seemed almost unreal to consider that only a few miles away, [illegible] forests that blanket much of the Pacific Northwest from [illegible] northern California into Alaska, may live remnants of mankind's forgotten cousins, the Sa[illegible]

George W. Earley [illegible] writer living on Mount Hood, has been a [illegible] and an unsuccessful seeker of [illegible] for several decades.

Tracking Sasqu[illegible]...

Ray Crowe founded the Western Bigfoot Society in July 1991. Membership is $20 a year, and Crowe's chatty *The Track Record* newsletter goes to 40 members each month.

The group meets the last Thursday of each month in the basement of Ray's Used Books and Collectibles, [illegible] in Portland's St. Johns neighborhood. Meeting attendance averages about 20. Ray will [illegible] at 640-6581 in the evenings, or will [illegible] if you drop by the shop during the [illegible]

[illegible]ations with an interest in Sasquatch include: **The Sasquatch Report**, in care of Mike Quast, 329 Seventh Ave. South, Apt. 7, Fargo N.D. 58103. (Monthly newsletter)

California Bigfoot Organization, 44528 21st St. West, Lancaster, Calif. 93536.

Bigfoot Co-Op, 14602 Montevideo Drive, Whittier, Calif. 90605.

The International Society of Cryptozoology, P.O. Box 43070, Tucson, Ariz. 85733. (Collects and publishes reports on a wide variety of creatures whose existence is not formally accepted by scientists, e.g. sea serpents, lake monsters, Sasquatch, etc. Quarterly newsletter and annual journal.)

British Columbia Scientific Cryptozoological Club, 8790 Cartier Street #308, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6P 4V2. (Irregularly published newsletter concentrates on Sasquatch and Ogopogo, the "monster" of Lake Okanagan.)

Always include a stamped, self-addressed envelope when writing organizations for information — letters to Canada should include an International Reply Coupon, as they can't use our stamps.

Recent and readable:

"Bigfoot Warning" by Tom Skizenski. Available for $10 postpaid from the author at P.O. Box 40828, Central Station, Portland, Ore. 97240.

"The Sasquatch in Alberta" by Thomas Steenberg. Available for $10 postpaid from Western Publishers, P.O. Box 30193, Station B, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

"Monsters of the Northwoods: Bigfoot in New York and Vermont," by Bartholomew, Brann and Hallenbeck. Available for $15 postpaid from William Brann, 2 Mountain Drive, Hudson Falls, N.Y. 12839.

"Creatures of the North: The New Minnesota Sasquatch Encounters." Available for $10 postpaid from Mike Quast — see address above.

The above are privately published works — check your library for such books as "Bigfoot: Monster, Myth or Man" by Peter Byrne, "Sasquatch: The Apes Among Us" by John Green, "Sasquatch" by Don Hunter and Rene Dahinden, and "Abominable Snowman: Legend Come to Life" by Ivan Sanderson. And just published this summer: "Field Guide to the Sasquatch" (Sasquatch Books, Seattle), available for $4.95 from your local bookstore.

Credit to Ray Crowe, Western Bigfoot Society

FOOTNOTE REPORT - RAY CROWE

Several reports received recently by the Western Bigfoot Society indicate that Bigfoot/Sasquatch is alive and well in the Pacific Northwest. The following is a summary of the November and December, 1992, activity reported in the "Track Record," issue #23, January, 1993. Reports continue to come in, and undoubtedly there will be more reports for December, besides reports of yesteryear.

Nov. 4th. On a MarkAir Express flight from Togiak to Manokotak, Alaska, passengers spotted a Bigfoot walking down a ravine. This area is on the mainland, at the northern base of the Aleutian Peninsula. It was "black and gray with a beaver hat on," one witness noted. Another said, "it was tall as my house...it was grayish black with a brown head, and he was walking on two feet." Pilot Randy Quinto circled around the area. "It was hiding by the creek in some brushes," a passenger said. Later the Public Safety Officer checked, and found 16" long tracks in the snow along a ravine. Tales of the "Yuilrik," or the Hairy Man, are as old as anyone can remember, "The Tundra Drums" commented.

November 14th. Dick Wolfgang and his cousin were hunting in the Blue Mountains of Oregon when they found fresh tracks near Tollgate (T3N,R38E). The tracks were about 17" long, and in one foot of snow. Tracks paralleled Hy. 204 on a logging road, and were probably made the night before, Dick reports.

Investigator Scott Sebring said one of his informants had told of a recent newspaper article about Bigfoot collecting starfish along the Oregon coast. He didn't recall the paper or the town though. Would appreciate a report if anyone saw this, or any BF article. Am curious as to what Biggie would want with starfish...didn't think they were edible. The common Ochre Star has five legs and is found in intertidal rocky areas at low tide ("Starfish," Jim White, in Oregon Wildlife, Apr. 1976) The star might have dozens of clams in its stomach that would be edible, but am inclined to think the Bigfoot was curious, like a little child, and just wanted to see what the "pretty things" were.

Datus Perry interviewed a lady, Wilma, who had been mushroom picking in the Brush Creek area, NE of Carson, WA, on Nov. 21, and heard something "yodeling" up on the hill above where she had been picking. Contacting Datus, Wilma showed him the area and he searched, finally finding 13" tracks, an area of the 'shrooms that looked trampled and scuffed, and another place where bark had been pulled from a dead snag. There was no snow on the ground at this time.

Two days later, on Nov. 23rd, Datus was contacted again. This time from a 50 year old Sioux Indian lady, that ran a "sweat bath" (water is heated with hot rocks in a tight lodge...and Indian sauna) off the Bear Creek road, very close to the above Brush Creek report. Nicknamed "Wounded Knee," she showed Datus and Harry Schumacher the area where her tepee was, and her complaint...her dog had been torn up in the roadway. The front leg had been torn off, Datus said, and the neck bitten open. Datus and Harry again found tracks crossing the road and going up a bank, and again there was the tearing open of rotten wood on the side of the hill. Probably the same "critter" that was seen before, Datus said. The tracks looked to be a coupla' days old, and had been rained on, but the "toes" were still plain. Again there was no snow on the ground.

As a parting shot, a Bigfoot investigator, who works northwest of Linnton, OR, said at 8PM December the 6th, as he was leaving work, he thought he saw an 8 foot Bigfoot standing along Hy. 30 (Saint Helens Road) just as he pulled onto the highway. He admitted he was tired though, and headlights from oncoming traffic were bright. Thinks he should have gone back to check....but he didn't, thinking there wouldn't be a Bigfoot so close to the city of Portland. Editor: I checked the area and found a steep ravine that was heavily forested with thick underbrush at the site. Trees and brush had lost their leaves for the season, and the area was reasonably open. A small muddy creek (heavy, recent rains) cascaded down the ravine. The area is in Forest Park, part of the city of Portland. In 1991 Bigfoot was reported near there on Germantown Road in the park. Associate Jim Hewkin investigated the area for three hours, but could find nothing of note.

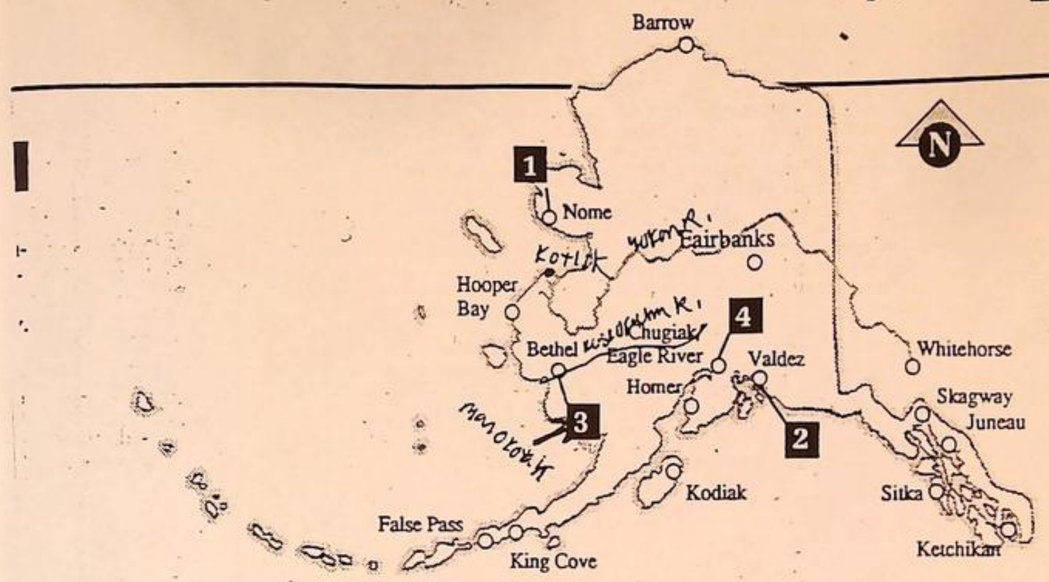
There are numerous other reports included in Track Record #23 from other time periods: a possible burial from last summer, a deer that was killed, a pair of lost sunglasses that were returned...stretched out of shape, a recent dropping found, and other significant reports of Bigfoot activity. Subscription $20.00 for ten issues; Western Bigfoot Society, 8622 N. Lombard, Portland, Or. 97203.

ray Dillingham

Fairbanks Daily News-Miner H-3

November 29, 1992

NORTHERN ALMANAC



are reserved for skiers only.

Though dogs are allowed on some sections of trail, Robb stressed that the only pooches let on the trails will be those walking or skijoring with their masters. No mushing will be allowed.

—The Valdez Vanguard

3 Bigfoot?

Reports of a strange creature sighted west of Manokotak recently have revived tales of Southwest Alaska's legendary Hairy Man, described as an elusive ape-like creature covered with hair and walking like a human.

"It was not a bear," said one witness, a passenger on a MarkAir Express flight from Togiak to Manokotak on Nov. 4. "It was black and gray with beaver hat on."

"It was tall, maybe as tall as my house," a second witness said. "It was grayish black with a brown head, and he was walking on two feet."

A third passenger also claimed to have seen the creature.

Passengers had alerted pilot Randy Quinto to what they thought was "a guy walking down in a ravine." Quinto circled around the area, east of High Summit. On the second pass, passengers spotted the animal.

"It was hiding by the creek in some brushes," one said.

Air taxi dispatcher Nicholai "Gwim" Alakayak, his son and the Manokotak village public safety officer later found 16-inch-long tracks in snow om a ravine 15 miles from the village.

Tales of "yuilrik," or the Hairy Man, are as old as anyone can remember. A Yup'ik variation is translated literally as "Sinkers," or "The One Who Disappears," according to a source.

—The Tundra Drums

4 School Debate

School officials in Chugiak are finding public interest in year-round schools lukewarm at best. Fred Stofflet, school district of curriculum and evaluation, estimated that the crowd at a West High meeting earlier this month was split "about 50-50" on the subject.

At other sites, "most folks were somewhat skeptical," he said.

Under the proposal, students would take several short vacations each year instead of having the summer off.

In addition to holding public meetings, a committee Stofflet heads will research the idea's pros and cons, and compile a report, due to the school board in January.

—The Chugiak-Eagle River Star

RAY Crowe - Western Bigfoot Society

Investigation
Art Caruso

12/20/92

A thank you goes out to Joe Turner for giving us this information. On December 10,1992 I interviewed a Stark--County couple on the phone about strange foot prints that was found outside near a window of their house. They also heard cat or baby cries coming out of the woods near them and the woman saw something or someone looking in the win--dow of the house.

On December 20,1992 Don Keating and I went to Minerve Ohio to interview the above couple. The report that we ob--tained here matched the ones Don and myself recorded over the phone separately.An object was seen in the window one night between November and December of 1991 by the woman. She told us that she could not sleep one night,so she came down stairs to watch T.V..As she neared the lower level of the house she smelled an oder that reminded her of a dead animal. The woman watched T.V. for 15 minutes then got up and turned off the set along with the light in the room but, as she did she had a feeling that someone was watching her. She turned and looked up at the window and to her sur--prise an oval form was in the upper right corner of the window. The object then pulled back from view and the woman dismissed it as being a branch of a tree moved by the wind. The next day a family member advised her to check outside to see if it was a branch or something else, upon checking they found no trees or branches that could have caused the silhouette in the window, however they did find a large foot print of somekind on the grond near the window.The man there wears a twelve size shoe and when he compared it with the print his was dwarfed. They also found what looked like hand smudges on the window sill.

Not far from the same window there is a slope in the land that goes around their house. Along the upper part of this slope, large indentations were found by a carpent--er who told them that something or someone vary heavy had walked there.The strangest thing however was the fact that their dogs would not go near the spot for a long time after. Also one of their dogs turned up missing and could not be found and he was the kind of pet that would not leave his house. They told us that one night in the summer as they were about to full asleep, they heard cat or baby cries coming from out of the woods near them. The woman gave us photos of the foot prints from near their window. Don & I found a foot print near the driveway and photos were taken of it. The couple would like to remain anonymous.

Bigfoot sighting a prank or real?

1986

Credit to Bill Brann

What may have been a harmless prank was too real for a number of midnight drivers near Estonville on State Route 161 Friday, Feb. 28.

Nobody was willing to identify what he saw as a bigfoot or sasquatch.

Each witness, however, reported virtually identical sightings, saying they saw a large, erect, human-like creature walking across the highway about a half-mile south of the city limits. All sightings were shortly after midnight.

Kevin Lindsay, 25, of Puyallup, was heading south on 161 into Estonville about 12:10 a.m. when his headlights picked up a "large, walking thing covered with black hair, whose shoulders were above the cab of my pick-up," cross the road with a "long, slow gait."

Estonville resident Dale Kistenmacher was leaving town about the same time when, as he was driving down the hill, he saw something big walking on two legs in the highway. Kistenmacher turned his vehicle around and found the creature still in the road as he drove back towards town.

He described it as seven to eight feet tall, with wide shoulders, black, shiny hair, and eyes that glowed red in the beam of his headlights.

"I drove towards it and it started walking from me. Then it stopped and looked over its shoulder at us, then went across the road and down the bank.

"I've worked in the woods all my life, and I've never believed anything like that existed," he said. "I know it was no bear."

Larry Magill, Estonville, encountered the being in the center of the highway as he was driving up the hill into town. He described it as at least six feet tall, with smooth, black hair and no hair on its face. He had time to turn around and see the creature again as he was driving down the road, adding that it was "swinging its arms as it crossed the street. It was no bear." Magill pointed out that what he saw could have been a man in a big monkey suit.

State Wildlife Agent Ken Kildahl, who was roused out of bed by others who had seen the creature and who visited the area shortly after the sightings, said that it appears that someone was playing a prank. "A fairly sophisticated prank," he called it.

Kildahl said that a lot of people saw the thing. Some even had time to turn around for a second look. He pointed out that animals don't behave that way under normal conditions. They don't hang around after an encounter with human beings.

"If an animal is seen that many times and it's known that it's an animal, then the likelihood is that it could be sick. In this instance there was a high probability that it might be an injured bear, and it was my responsibility to check that out," he added.

Kildahl said that he knew many of the witnesses and knew that they know what bear look like and, after talking with them, accepted that it wasn't a bear. He said that people were genuinely upset by what they saw. Some were crying.

"I'm sure this was a prank, and there are some serious concerns when people do this sort of thing," he said. He explained that there was traffic congestion during the sightings and there could easily have been a serious accident. In addition, he said, some people were scared and will have trouble resolving what they saw.

Whoever may have been on the highway dressed in a costume could have been hit, possibly purposely, and, Kildahl pointed out, many of the people in this area carry a rifle or pistol in their vehicles, and a bigfoot could have been shot.

Some witnesses said that, after their initial shock, their second thought was to get a gun, although some suspected that they may have been the victims of some sort of hoax.

An extensive search of the area the next day turned up nothing more than a lot of boot tracks in the general direction in which the creature was headed.

Kistenmacher said, however, that "If that was someone in a suit, they've got some money invested in that one."